

STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

SYNOPSIS AGENDA/EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

CODE:	EP-01
COMMITTEE:	Education Professions
DATE:	April 12, 2016

SUBJECT/TITLE

Proposal for the Greenville Alternative Teacher Education Program (GATE)

PURPOSE OF REPORT/REGULATION/ITEM

The purpose of the item is to seek approval for the Greenville Alternative Teacher Education Program (GATE).

CRITICAL FACTS

The Greenville County School District has proposed a program designed to recruit and prepare educators in the fields of science and mathematics. The district plans to recruit individuals with majors and degrees in these content areas who have not completed a teacher preparation program. The district seeks approval for GATE under the PACE Guidelines approved by the State Board in 2008. While the district will identify and recruit candidates, the SCDE will determine their eligibility for program participation under the PACE requirements. In order to meet state eligibility, a candidate must have a degree with a major in the target content areas, passing scores on the related Praxis II content exam(s), a complete application and fee, and cleared background reports. Through GATE, the district plans to hire up to 20 candidates per year who qualify in the areas of science and mathematics and will provide intensive mentoring and training for these candidates in their school placements. The SCDE will work closely with Greenville County to monitor program success and candidate progression and to issue the alternative pathway certificates for the educators.

TIMELINE/REVIEW PROCESS

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| • September 2015 | Greenville County contacts Office of Educator Services regarding the possibility of a district-based alternative certification program. |
| • January 2016 | Greenville submits a program for review to the Office of Educator Services. |
| • February 2016 | Educator Services provides feedback to the district and recommends seeking program approval under the PACE Guidelines. |
| • February 2016 | District submits final proposal to the Office of Educator Services. |

- April 2016 Proposal is submitted to Education Professions Committee and State Board for approval.
- May 2016 Greenville begins identifying and hiring candidates for the 2016–17 school year.

ECONOMIC IMPACT

COST:

N/A

FUND/SOURCE:

Greenville County Schools and participants

ATTACHMENTS

Attachments: ☒ yes ☐ no
(attachments must be submitted with synopsis)

Name of Attachments: Comparison Chart of GATE and PACE, GATE Proposal, and PACE Guidelines

RECOMMENDATION

The SCDE recommends approval of the Greenville Alternative Teacher Education (GATE) Program for the 2016-17 school year.

ACTION REQUEST

FOR APPROVAL: ☒

FOR INFORMATION ONLY: ☐